Deposits in Post Offices

†1924. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers have to face a lot of difficulties in the withdrawal of the amount deposited at the Post Offices in rural areas as a result of which the percentage of amount deposited in the same has decreased; and

(b) if so, the rectifying steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMED): (a) No. Sir. The farmers do not face any difficulties in the withdrawal of the amount deposited at the Post Offices in rural areas. The percentage of amount deposited as rural savings has shown a fluctuating trend in the past three years.

(b) Rural savings are encouraged by:

(i) Allotment of specific targets to field units to mobilize deposits, which are being monitored.

(ii) Widespread publicity of POSB schemes through small saving drives in rural areas/Media Post/Local Dailies/Radio/TV Pamphlets/ Brochures/Local Dak Mela/Puppet Shows/ 'Bal Bachat Yojana' for school children in rural areas/Small Savings Agents etc.

(iii) Motivational Savings Bank Training is imparted to postal staff, Branch Postmasters, Gramin Dak Sevaks to educate the villagers about the different small savings schemes available in the Post Office and guiding them on investment.

Appointment on compassionate grounds

†1925. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has discontinued providing Government job to the dependents of the deceased on compassionate grounds;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.